equipment at all the nine aspiration points of the system "should be made functional and operated regularly" during ship loading and receiving operations of the plant. A scrutiny of the relevant operational records in audit revealed that the utilisation was nil during the years 1984-85 and 1985-86 and was less than 3 per cent in the years 1982-83, 1983-84, 1986-87 and 1988-89 with reference to the number of hours the Ore Handling Plant had worked.

Thus the Dust Control system had not served the purpose of preventing environmental pollution and safeguarding the health of workers and the expenditure of Rs. 81.02 lakhs incurred on the project remained unfruitful .

Construction on New Port at Ennore

4133. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approved the construction of New Port at Ennore (Near Madras);

(b) if so, the details thereof, including commencement and completion of the work and financial allocation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Contstruction of New Port at Ennore (near Madras) has been sanctioned on 23-4-93 at an estimated cost of Rs. 593.90 crores. The work is scheduled to be completed by 22-4-98.

(c) Does not arise.

Construction of Bridges on National Highways in Gujarat

4134. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bridges constructed on the national highways in Gujarat during the year 1992-93 and also the number of those proposed to be constructed during 1993-94 and together with their locations;

(b) the number of bridges repaired/are being repaired on National Highways in Gujarat during the last two years; and

(c) what are the yearwise details of the amount spent on repairs of the bridges on National Highways during the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Four bridges located at Km. 140/2—4 of National Highway-8; Km. 1/70 of NH-8B; Km. 2/60 of NH-8B and on link road joining NH-8 and NH-8A have been completed in Gujarat during 1992-93. Depending upon the availability of funds following 51 bridges are targetted for completion during 1993-94 :—

42 bridges (29 Road over bridges, 11 under passes and 2 Rail over bridges) on Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway.

3 Bridges on National Highway-8.

2 Rail Over Bridges on NH-8A.

2 Bridges on NH-8B.

2 Rail Over Bridges on NH-8C.

(b) Seven bridges.

(c) 1991-92 Rs. 60 lakhs

1992-93 (Provisional) Rs. 43 lakhs

Development of National Highways

4135. SHRI MISA R. GANESAN :
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1864 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th May, 1993 and state :

(a) out of the amount, how much was spent exclusively for development work of the highway;

(b) how many projects/schemes did the respective State Governments during this period submit to the Central Government for the development of this highway;

(c) the details of each scheme, as to when it was submitted, whether it was approved or not;

(d) if the scheme or project is yet to be approved, the stage at which the scheme is presently pending before Government;

(e) whether the Central Government would send a high level team to assess the needs of the highway and study particularly the ghat section from Nerimangalam to Bodyanaickakoor;

(f) whether this ghat section is laid with rubberised bitumen; and

(g) if the answer to (f) is negative, what steps are being taken to improve this ghat section in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) An amount of Rs. 39.60 lakhs was spent exclusively for development work of the highway.

(b) to (d) Out of 21 schemes or projects received, 10 have been approved and the remaining were returned to the State PWD unapproved. No proposal is pending.

(e) No, Sir. The work of deficiency survey on the highway is in progress.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Programme for improvement of the ghat section will depend upon the outcome of deficiency survey and availability of funds.

मण्डी और कुल्लू के बीच राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग संख्या 20 का विकास

4136. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह**: क्या जल भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार इस तथ्य से अवगत है कि हर वर्ष भारी वर्षा के कारण मण्डी और कुल्लू के बीच राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग संख्या 20 यातायात के लिए बन्द हो जाता है जिसके कारण स्थानीय लोगों और पर्यटकों के लिए भारी असुविधा होती है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस वर्ष जुलाई के महीने में विभिन्न स्थानों पर भारी वर्षा के कारण मण्डी और बाहेंग के बीच सड़क टूट गयी थी और इस राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग को अभी तक पूर्ण रूप से खोला नहीं जा सका है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग संख्या 20-21 को बरास्ता बजौरा-न्यूल-कंडी एक वैकल्पिक लिंक रोड के रूप में बनाकर लोगों को सुविधा प्रदान करने का विचार रखती है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो कब तक; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

जल भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर): (क) मंडी और कुल्लू के बीच का राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग खंड रा० रा०-20 का नहीं बल्कि रा० रा०-21 का हिस्सा है। यह पहाड़ी क्षेत्र से गुजरता है और इसमें ढलाने हैं तथा बरसात के मौसम में यह प्रभावित हो जाता है जिसके फलस्वरूप कभी-कभी यातायात अवरुद्ध हो जाता है।

(ख) जी हां। सड़क को तुरन्त मरम्मत कार्य करने के बाद यातायात के लिए खोल दिया गया है और राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग को अब यातायात चलने योग्य स्थिति में रखा जा रहा है।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ङ) आठवीं योजना में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के लिए अल्प आबंटन के कारण इस स्थिति में हिमाचल प्रदेश सहित किसी राज्य में नये राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों की घोषणा करना कठिन है।

Construction of a Bridge over River Krishna

4137. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal from Government of A. P. to construct a bridge on River Krishna to connect Div. Taluk of Krishna Distt. and Repalle Taluka of Guntur Distt. at Puligadda;

(b) if so, what are the details; and

(c) at what stage of consideration is the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to construct the bridge in question at present under any of the Centrally sponsored Schemes.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Four Laning of National Highway between Vijayawada-Chilkaluripeta Road

4138. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highway between Vijayawada and Chilkaluripeta in A.P. is proposed to be widened from double lane to four lanes;

(b) what is the estimated cost of the project; whether any external assistance as likely to be given;

(c) what is the total land proposed to be acquired for expansion; and

(d) at what stage of execution in the project; what is the target date to complete the work, the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Estimated cost of the project is Rs. 146 crores. It is too early to indicate if any external assistance is likely to be given.

(c) About 41.21 hectares of land is to be acquired.